**Call for Applications- The 3rd Edition of the Rural Youth Awards 2019**

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: **10 March 2019 at 23:00hrs**

The Global Youth Innovation Network Gambia Chapter (GYIN Gambia), in collaboration with key partners- The Youth Empowerment Project (YEP), The Building Resilience Against Food and Nutrition Insecurity in the Sahel (P2RS), Wuli and Sandu Development Agency (WASDA) and the National Youth Council (NYC) is inviting youth (aged 15-35) whose farming or businesses are located in rural areas to apply for the 3rd Edition of the Rural Youth Awards 2019.

**Theme: *“DISCOVERING THE VALUE CHAIN BY PUTTING YOUNG PEOPLE IN AGRICULTURAL VALUE ADDITION”***

The award not only provides **financial and non-financial support** to deserving agribusiness players to **grow their businesses** but it also serves as an **encouragement** for them and others to stay in agriculture and to contribute to increasing food security and at the same time enjoy the benefits of running their own businesses.

The 2019 award winners are to each receive **a cash prize of D35,000**; as well as **six-month mentorship** support by an experienced mentor and business expert.

As part of celebrations marking this year’s 3rd Edition of the Rural Youth Awards, GYIN Gambia will inculcate the spirit of entrepreneurship in the minds of rural youths through organizing a programme called **“HOW TO BECOME AN ENTREPRENEUR WITH A MENTOR.”**

**VENUE**: **WASDA, Wuli West, Upper River Region (URR)**

**DATES**: **25th - 27th April 2019**

As part of the GYIN Gambia Rural Youth Awards 2019 initiative, GYIN Gambia plans to support the creation of ten rural youth enterprises, support 25 rural youth with business ideas/plans; hold a six-month mentorship programme on enterprise management, raise the incomes of 25 rural youth, organise national and regional exchange visits for 10 award winners and an entrepreneurship skills development training on livelihoods for 25 rural youth.

Send your complete application form to [gambia@gyin.org](mailto:gambia@gyin.org) on or before **10 March 2019 at 23:00hrs**.

For any enquires about the award, you can call (**+220) 3938929/ 6181700/ 7804805/ 3164881/2865563/ 2502929.**

Or, email:[gambia@gyin.org](mailto:gambia@gyin.org)

[edrissanjie@gyin.org](mailto:edrissanjie@gyin.org) **Website:** wwwgyingambia.gm

**THE 3RD EDITION OF THE RURAL YOUTH AWARDS 2019**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

**ELIGIBILITY & RULES**

1. Applicant(s) must be a **Gambian rural youth** (15-35 years);
2. Applicant(s) can apply for **more than one award category**;
3. Nominees and Award Winners must be **willing and available to participate** **FULLY** in GYIN Gambia and its partners’ activities;
4. Nominees/Award Winner must be **residing in rural areas** or **have established businesses in rural areas**;

**AWARD CATEGORIES AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

* 1. **Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

1. Been running a business for not more than 3 years;
2. Exceptional quality of products/services;
3. A strong market and promotional strategy.
   1. **Young Agribusiness of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

1. Use of simple techniques of processing of agro-products;
2. Exceptional quality of products/services;
3. A strong market and promotional strategy.
   1. **Young Agro-Tech of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

* + 1. Exposure to new farming technologies;
    2. Been providing farming services to the local community;
    3. Been active in manufacturing or fabrication of farming inputs/equipment.
  1. **Best Business Idea of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

1. A strong business idea to expand within the next 2 years;
2. A business idea in value addition;
3. A strong market and promotional strategy.
   1. **Best Emerging Business of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

* + 1. Good business professionalism and good business relations;
    2. Strong business results/achievements;
    3. The potential to grow and expand his/her business (i.e. business impact, replicating it in other regions).
  1. **Best Processing and Value Addition Business of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

* + 1. Achieved exceptional quality processing of agro-products;
    2. Changed or transformed product(s) from their original state to a more valuable state;
    3. Been active in the agricultural value chain.
  1. **Young Business Innovator of the Year**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

* + 1. Been changing raw agricultural products into something new;
    2. Been innovating in the areas of new/quality packaging, processing, cooling, drying, extracting or any other type of process that differentiates the product from the original raw commodity;
    3. Offered innovation in their service(s) to the market.

#### ****Young Business Partner of the Year****

***An entrepreneur who has:***

1. Developed exceptional incentive for customers to purchase product(s) or subscribe to a service;
2. Demonstrated commitment to understanding and addressing difficult social and business issues;
3. Built good customer relationships.
   1. **Best Service Provider of Agro-Products of the Year 2019**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

* + 1. Added value to his/her products and services;
    2. Offered high quality products and quality control;
    3. Sold products in large quantities.
  1. **Best Packaged and Labelled Product of the Year**

***An entrepreneur who has:***

1. Offered well-packaged products;
2. Offered higher quality products;
3. Increased convenience in marketing products.

**THE 3RD EDITION OF THE RURAL YOUTH AWARDS 2019**

**APPLICATION FORM**

1. Name: -------------------------------------------------------------
2. Email: -------------------------------------------------------------
3. Gender: a) Female b) Male
4. Telephone: (+220) ---------------------------------.(Preferable WhatsApp)
5. Family Status: (a) Married (b) Single (c) Divorced (d) Widowed
6. Date of Birth: ……../………/…….…..
7. Which Village/ District and Region are you residing in?
8. Name of Village: ………………………………………
9. Name of District: ........................................................
10. Name of Region: ………………………………………
11. Name the types of Business you are doing

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1. Describe your **Business or Business Idea (250 words max.)**

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1. Do you have a Business Plan? If yes, send a copy to [gambia@gyin.org](mailto:gambia@gyin.org)
2. What value addition are you doing - Processing, Labelling, Packaging or Marketing? **(Explain in 300 words max.)**

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1. Choose by ticking the Award category that suites you (see selection criteria on p.2-3)
2. Young Entrepreneur of the Year 2019
3. Young Agribusiness of the Year 2019
4. Young Agro-Tech of the Year 2019
5. Best Business Idea of the Year 2019
6. Best Emerging Business of the Year 2019
7. Best Processing and Value Addition Business of the Year 2019
8. Best Business Innovation of the Year 2019
9. Best Business Partner of the Year 2019
10. Best Service Provider of Agro-Products of the Year 2019
11. Best Packing Products and Labelling of the Year 2019
12. Briefly explain your long term Business Plan(s) putting into consideration sustainability and partnership methods.

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1. Do you have any comment(s), that you would like the Award Application Review Committee to be aware of?

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